

1. A method of applying ink with an inking system during printing and removing ink during wash-up comprising:

- applying ink from a reservoir to a form roller from a first roller;
- applying ink from the form roller to a plate cylinder in rotating engagement with the form roller;
- removing excess ink from the form roller with a subtractive roller system and returning such excess ink to the reservoir;
- disengaging the plate cylinder and the form roller;
- applying ink solvent to the inking system;
- rotating the form roller, first roller and subtractive roller system;
- removing a mixture of ink solvent and residual ink from the form roller and depositing the mixture in a wash-up reservoir; and
- removing the wash-up reservoir containing the mixture of ink solvent and residual ink.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the removal of a printing plate from the plate cylinder during wash-up after disengagement of the plate cylinder and the form roller.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the removing of the excess ink and returning the excess ink to the reservoir with the subtractive roller system comprises:

- transferring excess ink from the form roller onto a second roller;
- transferring excess ink from the second roller onto a third roller; and
- scraping excess ink from the third roller directly into the ink reservoir.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein the removing of the mixture of ink solvent and residual ink from the form roller and depositing the mixture in the reservoir comprises:

transferring the mixture from the form roller onto the second roller;
transferring the mixture from the second roller onto the third roller; and
scraping the mixture from the third roller directly into the ink reservoir.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the mixture is removed from the first roller as the rollers are rotated during wash-up.